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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 3030**  
Hiroya NAKAMURA et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2005\_0636A  
Serial No. 10/532,982 : Group Art Unit 4116  
Filed June 3, 2005 : Examiner Anthony J. Zimmer  
METHOD FOR  
REGENERATING CATALYST : **Mail Stop: Amendment**

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**  
**AND**  
**REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of December 10, 2007, constituting a requirement for restriction among Groups I-III as defined on page 2 of the Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I, i.e. claims 3, 7, 14, 18, 22 and 26. As correctly noted by the Examiner, claims 1, 2, 6, 10-13, 17, 21 and 25 are generic in terms of the restriction requirement. Accordingly, the claims which read on elected Group I are claims 1-3, 6-7, 10-14, 17-18, 21-22 and 25-26.

The Examiner has also required election of either Species I or II as defined on page 3 of the Office Action, in response to which Applicants elect Species I. The claims which read on elected Species I are claims 1-10 and 12-20. Of the elected Group I claims, and considering the claims which are generic in terms of the restriction requirement, the claims which read on elected Species I are claims 1-3, 6-7, 10, 12-14 and 17-18.

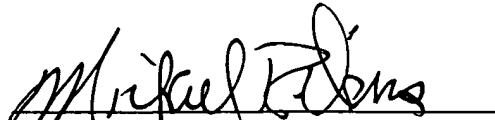
Applicants emphasize that the foregoing elections are made while reserving their rights under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application for the non-elected subject matter.

Action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Hiroya NAKAMURA et al.

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Davis", is written over a horizontal line.

Michael R. Davis

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January 4, 2008